

# FRENCH FIGHT WAY CLOSER TO METZ; GAIN IN BELGIUM, WAR OFFICE SAYS

## GUNMEN SLAYERS OF BAFF HIRED BY BUSINESS ENEMIES WHO FACED IMPENDING RUIN

Competitors of Poultry Trust's Chief Opponent Feared for Holiday Trade — Hunt Chicken Handlers as Assassins.

The assassination at West Washington Market last night of Barnet Baff was a business murder.

Just as Herman Rosenthal was shot down by hired gunmen when his activities appeared destructive of the gamblers' business, so Barnet Baff was killed by men hired by those whose business was being ruined by his continued presence in the field.

In every detail the murder of Baff follows, item with item, the murder of Herman Rosenthal, except that in the case of the slaughtered gambler a threat to make revelations to justice had been made and in the instance of the chicken dealer full revelation of irregularities in the trade had already been made and had resulted in the conviction of thirteen men.

TERROR KEEPS WITNESSES SILENT.

From information which The Evening World has obtained from a source very close to the business affairs of the murdered Baff, it is evident that not only was last night's assassination a matter of cold-blooded business, but the ramifications of the plot behind it are as extensive as those of the Rosenthal case.

The very fact that from hundreds of marketmen who either saw Baff shot or were familiar with his movements the detectives have not been able to glean a single informing detail of last night's shooting indicates that a blanket of terror as heavy as that of the Rosenthal case has been dropped over the whole live poultry business in the city.

Baff was shot because he was ruining a clique of his immediate competitors.

Baff was shot at this time because the holiday business was approaching and his business enemies feared ruin unless they could eliminate him from the trade.

Since the conviction on Aug. 15, 1911, of thirteen members of the so-called Poultry Trust—a conviction brought about largely by the activities of Barnet Baff—on the charge of combining in the restraint of trade,

### Holiday Activity!

These are busy days among New York's 5,000,000 people.

Between now and Christmas there will be many added workers employed in homes, stores and factories; more comfortable houses and apartments rented; more luncheons and dinners taken in downtown hotels and restaurants; by shoppers; more money borrowed; more work and an increased buying of nearly everything under the sun to fill Christmas stockings.

What a wonderful opportunity for progressive business people to reap a golden harvest of profit-dollars through ADVERTISING!

Holiday advertising should not be spasmodic. It should start now and be continued EVERY DAY until the Yuletide turkey is fairly on the table.

See that your business announcement is printed in EVERY ISSUE OF THE WORLD, which gives advertisements a CIRCULATION in New York City, morning and Sunday, GREATER than the Herald, Times, Sun and Tribune ADDED TOGETHER.

Seven-time World ads. cost less per insertion and multiply results. This is the season when purses are opened wide. Start now. World ads. working without a moment's delay.

## FRIEDMANN'S AIDE HELD FOR ATTACK ON PRETTY WIDOW

Dr. Sturm Charged With Striking Her When She Asked for Return of \$25,000.

HER NOSE IS BROKEN.

Victim Says Physician Volunteered to Guard Valuables While She Moved.

Dr. Maurice Sturm, who introduced Dr. Friederich Friedmann and his tuberculosis serum to New York, was held in \$1,500 bail on a charge of larceny and \$1,500 bail on a charge of felonious assault in West Side Police Court by Magistrate Corrigan this afternoon.

The complainant in both cases was Mrs. Laura Baird, a pretty young widow who swore that when she asked Sturm last night in his office, N. 237 West Seventy-fourth street, to return \$25,000 worth of valuables she had entrusted to his keeping, he struck her with a cut glass carafe and broke her nose. Sturm returned the valuables in court to-day, but the larceny charge was pressed nevertheless.

Mrs. Baird is the widow of a wealthy London merchant. She came to New York last June, and a woman friend introduced her to Dr. Sturm two months ago. This is her story of what happened after she met the doctor.

"He made himself very agreeable to me," said the widow, gently caressing the bandages on her nose. "He invited me to call and he took me to dinners and the theatre. Finally he suggested that I move to an apartment in the Rector, at Seventy-ninth Street and Broadway.

"Now, my dear," said Dr. Sturm to me, "you know it is dangerous to move valuables because so many strangers have the handling of them. You had better turn over your jewelry and other valuable property to me. I will keep them in my safe until you are settled in your new home."

"I had implicit trust in him and gave him about \$25,000 worth of stuff, including a pearl necklace worth \$10,000.

"He flatly refused to return my property. This was in line with what I had been told and I was alarmed. Last night at 8 o'clock I went to his office and told him he would have to give me my property at once.

"He flew into a violent rage and threatened me. I went to his telephone and called up my attorney, Bertram M. Holden. While I was talking to Mr. Holden, Dr. Sturm picked up a heavy water bottle from a table and hit me on the head with it.

Dr. Sturm spent the night in a cell in West Sixty-eighth Street Station. A lawyer representing him asked for a continuance and low bail.

"This man is a prominent citizen," said the lawyer, referring to Dr. Sturm. "He brought to this city one of the most famous surgeons in the world, Dr. Friedmann of Germany."

"You mean one of the greatest fakers in the world," said Magistrate Corrigan. "Why don't Dr. Sturm give this woman her valuables?"

"I am willing to do it," broke in the prisoner.

"Then go and do it," ordered the Court. The detectives will go along and check you up. I will adjourn the assault case. Come back here at 2 o'clock."

An Evening World reporter called on Dr. Sturm in his office and apartment at No. 237 West Seventy-fourth Street, after the detectives had departed. The place looked like a battlefield in Belgium. Dr. Sturm

## Princess of Cherokee Indians, Who Is to Wed Ex-Boss Croker



MISS BEULAH EDMONDSON, INDIAN PRINCESS.

## INDIAN PRINCESS WILL WED CROKER, EX-BOSS, AGED 71

Former Tammany Leader's Bride-to-Be Known Here as Beulah Edmondson.

HE DODGES REPORTERS.

"Personal Matter," He Says, Declining to Discuss Nuptials Set for To-Morrow.

The mysterious woman who is to become the bride to-morrow of Richard Croker, one time chief of Tammany Hall, is an Indian princess, Ketau Kaluntuchy, Princess Sequoyah, of the Cherokee Nation. She is known in New York, where she has been studying dramatic art for nearly a year, as Miss Beulah Benton Edmondson. She lives at the Studio Club, No. 25 East Sixty-second Street. She met Mr. Croker at the National Democratic Convention at Kansas City, where her father was a delegate from Oklahoma.

It is possible that the publicity regarding his marriage, which Mr. Croker sought very much to avoid, may change the wedding plans. The former Tammany chief's first wife died only three months ago; they had lived apart for many years, though they were on terms of friendly correspondence for the latter part of Mrs. Croker's life. Thus Mr. Croker has practically lived as a bachelor for nearly twenty years.

Mr. Croker came down the steps of the home of his son, Howard, at No. 5 East Seventy-fourth street, at 10.30 o'clock this morning, looking the picture of a matured and happy vitality. His shoulders were squared back into his fur coat and his high hat glinted almost jauntily. He greeted a group of reporters with a playful wave of the hand and twinkling eyes.

"Now, now," he said, "Not a word. Not a word. Let us talk about the war news. What do you hear from the allies?"

"PURELY PERSONAL MATTER," DECLARES CROKER.

A reporter showed him a clipping telling of the young woman who was to be his bride.

"So," he said, raising his eyebrows in mock surprise. "The news comes from Memphis, does it? Now, how in the world did it come from way down there?"

"But you do not deny the truth of it?" suggested a reporter.

"When a man does a good thing," said Mr. Croker, "the newspapers never mention it. This is purely a personal matter, of no interest to the public, and I will not talk about it. But when a man does a bad thing the newspapers hound him for years."

"It is a long time since any one has charged you with doing anything wrong," suggested another reporter.

"Never did anything wrong in my life," snapped Mr. Croker. "The newspapers never did me justice."

A playful suggestion from an old acquaintance that a Tammany-Cherokee alliance was a proper subject to arouse public interest, caused the veteran to flush and show embarrassment, nor did he take any more kindly to a suggestion that a skillful organizer might make a pleasing adaptation of the harmony of "Tam-man-nee" as a substitute for the "Lohengrin" wedding march.

He whirled about and said he had

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## GUNS OF WAR FLEETS NEAR CHANNEL COAST BATTER GERMAN LINES

London Despatches Say Kaiser's Naval Base and Six Submarines Have Been Destroyed at Zeebrugge—Paris Reports Gains.

## INDIAN TROOPS RETAKE POSITION THEY HAD LOST.

PARIS, Nov. 25 (United Press).—The French are now nearer the German stronghold of Metz than at any time since the war began.

The official communique to-day declares that in the region of Pont-a-Mousson, on the French right, the artillery has bombarded Arnville. This is within ten miles of Metz. It is also stated that a German attack at Bethincourt, near Verdun, has been repulsed, and that a request by the Germans for a suspension of hostilities has been refused.

LONDON, Nov. 25 (Associated Press).—Although no official announcement is made, all the reports from across the Channel indicate that the German naval base at Zeebrugge has been demolished and that six submarines were destroyed.

With the smashing of these submarines by the allied fleet it is now felt there is little danger of an undersea raid. From the latest news despatches it is apparent that the damage inflicted by the fire of the warships was far more extensive than was first supposed.

Some reports received in London say the Germans already have started an attack upon the allied front in Flanders which will be more intense and formidable than any hitherto undertaken. It is apparent that the Germans have been carefully preparing for this move for some days past.

The operations of the allied fleet in the destruction of Zeebrugge will make the new move more difficult for the Germans.

The bombardment, which lasted three hours on Monday, was part of a general bombardment of the German forces along the coast, which was renewed yesterday. It is said the coast has been cleared of Germans from Nieuport to the Dutch border.

The Daily Mail's correspondent at Rotterdam telegraphs details of the attack, which, he says, was severe. His account says:

"Zeebrugge is burning, the Solway works near the Bruges ship canal are a heap of ruins and the sections of six submarine boats which had been brought there are reduced to twisted iron. A large quantity of stores also was destroyed.

"The bombardment lasted from 2 o'clock until 5 o'clock Monday afternoon. The coast guard building and the public schools were destroyed. The military trains at the Solway works were blown to fragments and a large crane which was being used for putting the submarines together simply disappeared.

"In desperation the Germans tried to remove their stores, including the apparatus for making hydrogen for Zeppelins, to Bruges, but found a section of the railway had been blown up."

He says the bombardment of the coast from Middelkerke to Knokke, a distance of about twenty miles, was continued yesterday and adds: "All the coast towns, including Ostend, which is now under fire, were denuded of civilians. Blankenberghe, where the Germans tried to bring their 12-inch guns into play, was severely shelled, the inhabitants flying in a panic.

"The naval guns have been raking the coast, searching the sand dunes for German troops. At Ostend many motor boats with machine guns mounted in the bows, intended for use on the Yser, were destroyed by British fire. The German guns on the promenade at Ostend were also demolished by naval shells."

### OFFICIAL FRENCH REPORT

PARIS, Nov. 25 (Associated Press).—The official statement given by the French War Office this afternoon says:

"From the North Sea to Ypres there has been no infantry attack. Between Langemarck and Zonnebeke we have gained territory.

"In the vicinity of La Bassée the Indian troops repulsed from the

## THREE FIREMEN HURT AT BLAZE IN BRONX

Three-Alarm Fire at No. 3861 Third Avenue Is Confined to Cellars.

Three alarms were turned in to-day when fire was discovered in the cellar of a plumber's supply house at No. 3861 Third Avenue, the Bronx. This store and three others are on the ground floor of a big building called the London Casino, with a dance hall and restaurant on the upper floors. Crowded tenements surround it on all sides.

Deputy Chief Sloan, coming on the second alarm, turned in the third, which brought Fire Chief Kenyon. The firemen managed to confine the flames to the cellar and adjacent cellars below a shoe store and furniture store. Traffic on the Third Avenue surface lines was tied up for an hour. Three firemen were slightly hurt.

M. Kenna, of Hook and Ladder Truck No. 27, fell from a ladder and wrenched his back, and Firemen John Brennan and Chester Crumb, of No. 31 Truck and No. 46 Engine, respectively, were cut by falling glass.

Killed Two and Himself. SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 25.—William J. Hill, formerly a guard at San Quentin Penitentiary, wrought up to insane frenzy to-day by a trivial quarrel at breakfast, killed two persons and then committed suicide.

shouted two apparently valuable paintings that had big holes in them. The floor was ankle deep with fragments of furniture and ornaments.

"This is what Mrs. Baird did last night," said the doctor. "I told her I wouldn't return her valuables to her in the condition she was in and she went through the place like a cyclone. If her nose is broken she broke it herself bumping into something. I have turned her jewelry over to the detectives."

## ROOSEVELT GRANTED CHANGE OF VENUE

Appellate Court Reverses Decision Given for Barnes in Libel Action Against Colonel.

ALBANY, Nov. 25.—The Appellate Division, Third Department, to-day reversed the ruling of Supreme Court Justice Chester, which refused a change of venue for the trial of the \$50,000 libel suit brought by William Barnes against Col. Theodore Roosevelt. Justice Howard dissented from the prevailing opinion.

The court ordered the trial to be held in Oneonta instead of Albany. Mr. Roosevelt's attorneys claimed that Mr. Barnes, former Chairman of the Republican State Committee, dominated the politics of Albany County and that consequently a fair trial could not be had there. The Appellate Court held that "neither party should be compelled to try the action in the county in which the other party resides."

THE EVENING WORLD Will Not Be Published TO-MORROW (Thanksgiving Day)